

NOV. 21, 2003 3:45PM OBLON SPIVAK

NO. 732 P. 6

Application No. 09/622,583  
Reply to Office Action of February 27, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2, 3 and 16-24 are active in this application. Support for the amendments to the claims is found on page 8, lines 4-38. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Applicants thank Examiners Chunduru and Fredman for reviewing the claim amendments and discussing this case with the undersigned on October 15, 2003. During this discussion, it was indicated that the amendment submitted herein would overcome the rejection over Bensussan et al.

Bensussan et al describe detecting HLA-G expression in cultured cells whereas the present claims are directed to method of establishing the HLA-G expression of a solid tumor cells. Therefore, in view of the above, Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Bensussan et al. be withdrawn.

Applicants also request that this application be passed on to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

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